

National Women's History Month actually started in March of 1980 as National Women's History Week. In 1987, the celebration was expanded to a full month. This month, we mark 30 years of shining a bright light on the importance that women have played in shaping the great Nation we live in today.

This year's theme is "writing women back into history." Through events, celebrations, and many additional measures, 2010 will help ensure that the historical and groundbreaking achievements made by thousands of women will find their rightful place in our history books.

Today, I am proud to recognize the grandmothers, the mothers, and the daughters who have given us so many reasons to celebrate National Women's History Month. I look forward to witnessing other young women become future leaders and history makers.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF SERGEANT VINCENT L.C. OWENS

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a brave American soldier who sacrificed his life for freedom, Sergeant Vincent L.C. Owens from Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Sergeant Owens was a decorated soldier who was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, stationed in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He was the recipient of many awards, including two Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, a Valorous Unit Award, an Iraq Campaign Medal, and a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

On March 1, 2010, Sergeant Owens died of injuries sustained when the vehicle he occupied received direct fire. He was only 21.

Vincent was an accomplished young man, known for his work ethic and drive, for his focus and desire to be the best, and, most importantly, for his commitment to his family. Vincent made the ultimate sacrifice. So, too, did his family—his wife, Kaitlyn; his mother, Sheila; and his father, Keith.

Mr. Speaker, Vincent is a true American hero. I ask that my colleagues keep his family and friends in their thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

SAVING NASA, A NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST AND ASSET

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased tonight to acknowledge that there is a lot of energy behind the engine of NASA and the Constellation Program. There is a

lot of interest across America, not so much for the individual States that are impacted but for the research engine of the international space station and the importance of human space exploration.

Today, I will introduce, along with 16 cosponsors, H. Res. 1150, which declares NASA a national security interest and asset. It emphasizes the importance of the work of NASA. As well, it indicates that the elimination of the Constellation Program will, in fact, create a national security risk to the United States and will diminish the Nation's efforts to advance scientific research in space.

In addition, we are asking and indicating that there should be partnerships between universities and that NASA centers should be established to provide research opportunities to conduct research on behalf of the United States at the international space station. In addition, this legislation will ask for the full funding of the Constellation Program.

We must save NASA. We must save jobs. This is an American imperative.

PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND AMERICA'S MANNED SPACE PROGRAM

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleague and fellow Houstonian, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, in expressing our strong support for the fine men and women at NASA.

Our manned space program has preserved America's leadership in space, which has led to America's leadership in technology and in scientific advancement. The great men and women of NASA and of our manned space program have created in so many ways so many technological spin-offs that we must preserve America's leadership in space. We must preserve America's ability to protect the high ground. Unavoidably, the outer space today is the high ground militarily just as surely as Cemetery Hill and Little Round Top were at Gettysburg.

There is strong bipartisan support in this Congress to preserve America's manned space program and to oppose the recommendation—and that's what it is—of the Obama administration to close down America's space program. That is unacceptable. America will never surrender her leadership in the world, and we certainly will not surrender our leadership in outer space.

We are very proud of the men and women at NASA and in our manned space program, and we will be working together in a bipartisan way to preserve, protect and defend America's manned space program.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2 of rule IX, I hereby give notice of my intent to offer a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct initiated an investigation into allegations related to earmarks and campaign contributions in the Spring of 2009.

Whereas, on December 2, 2009, reports and findings in seven separate matters involving the alleged connection between earmarks and campaign contributions were forwarded by the Office of Congressional Ethics to the Standards Committee.

Whereas, on February 26, 2010, the Standards Committee made public its report on the matter wherein the Committee found, though a widespread perception exists among corporations and lobbyists that campaign contributions provide a greater chance of obtaining earmarks, there was no evidence that Members or their staff considered contributions when requesting earmarks.

Whereas, the Committee indicated that, with respect to the matters forwarded by the Office of Congressional Ethics, neither the evidence cited in the OCE's findings nor the evidence in the record before the Standards Committee provided a substantial reason to believe that violations of applicable standards of conduct occurred.

Whereas, the Office of Congressional Ethics is prohibited from reviewing activities taking place prior to March of 2008 and lacks the authority to subpoena witnesses and documents.

Whereas, for example, the Office of Congressional Ethics noted that in some instances documents were redacted or specific information was not provided and that, in at least one instance, they had reason to believe a witness withheld information requested and did not identify what was being withheld.

Whereas, the Office of Congressional Ethics also noted that they were able to interview only six former employees of the PMA Group, with many former employees refusing to consent to interviews and the OCE unable to obtain evidence within PMA's possession.

Whereas, Roll Call noted that "the committee report was five pages long and included no documentation of any evidence collected or any interviews conducted by the committee, beyond a statement that the investigation included extensive document reviews and interviews with numerous witnesses." (Roll Call, March 8, 2010)

Whereas, it is unclear whether the Standards Committee included in their investigation any activities that occurred prior to 2008.

Whereas, it is unclear whether the Standards Committee interviewed any Members in the course of their investigation.

Whereas, it is unclear whether the Standards Committee, in the course of their investigation, initiated their own subpoenas or followed the Office of Congressional Ethics recommendations to issue subpoenas.

Therefore be it:

Resolved, That not later than seven days after the adoption of this resolution, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct shall report to the House of Representatives, with respect to the activities addressed in its report of February 26, 2010, (1) what witnesses were interviewed, (2) what, if any,